

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

GERARDUS V.J. VAN DEN BERG

NL 000459

Serial No.

Group Art Unit

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Ex.

Title: COMMUNICATION SYSTEM PROVIDING REMOTE USERS WITH FACILITIES

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-9 as follows:

1 3. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1,
2 characterised in that the intervening network (3) supports a
3 signalling protocol for conveying the facility related signals (S).

1 4. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1,
2 characterised in that the facility providing processing device (2)
3 is arranged to have the facilities implemented by software and/or
4 hardware.

1 5. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1,
2 characterised in that at least part of the facility related signals
3 (S) is arranged to select facilities requested by the remote user
4 terminal (RT₁ ... RT_m).

1 6. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1,
2 characterised in that either voice-like signals, e.g. DTMF control
3 signals, FSK signals and the like, and/or end-to-end signals, e.g.

4 user-to-user signalling are used for enabling the facilities of the
5 processing device (2) to the remote user terminal (RT1 ... RTm).

1 7. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1,
2 characterised in that the facilities may comprise one or more of
3 the following features: generic extension features, e.g. break-in
4 feature, automatic ring back feature, follow me feature, shuttle
5 feature, call forwarding; digital extension features, such as ISDN
6 and data communication features; cordless extension features; group
7 features; manager/secretary features; operator features; day and
8 night service features; trunk features, e.g. generic trunk
9 features, ISDN trunk features, and routing features; paging
10 features; telephony and maintenance features; and any features
11 upgradable and/or downloadable during operation of the
12 communication system (1).

1 8. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1,
2 characterised in that the processing device (2) and/or the user
3 terminal (T1 ... Tn) concerned comprises a voice signal transmitter
4 and/or receiver, for example a DTMF transmitter/receiver (4).

1 9. (Amended) Telephone system comprising a communication system
2 (1) according to claim 1, the communication system (1) having at
3 least one user terminal (T1 ... Tn), a facility providing
4 processing device (2) coupled thereto for connecting the user
5 terminals (T1 ... Tn), and an intervening network (3) for
6 interconnection of the processing device (2) and a remote user
7 terminal (RT1 ... RTm), characterised in that the intervening
8 network (3) is arranged for conveying at least facility related
9 signals (S), and that the processing device (2) is equipped for
10 allowing its facilities to be used by the remote user terminal (RT1
11 ... RTm).

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment to claims 3-9 were made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependent form so as to avoid the additional filing fee.

The claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicant furthermore reserves the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Appendix A

Version with Markings

to Show Changes Made to the Claim

The following are marked up versions of amended claims 3-9:

1 3. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1
2 ~~claims 1 or 2~~, characterised in that the intervening network (3)
3 supports a signalling protocol for conveying the facility related
4 signals (S).

1 4. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1
2 ~~one of the claims 1-3~~, characterised in that the facility providing
3 processing device (2) is arranged to have the facilities
4 implemented by software and/or hardware.

1 5. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1
2 ~~one of the claims 1-4~~, characterised in that at least part of the
3 facility related signals (S) is arranged to select facilities
4 requested by the remote user terminal (RT1 ... RTm).

1 6. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1
2 ~~one of the claims 1-5~~, characterised in that either voice-like
3 signals, e.g. DTMF control signals, FSK signals and the like,
4 and/or end-to-end signals, e.g. user-to-user signalling are used
5 for enabling the facilities of the processing device (2) to the
6 remote user terminal (RT1 ... RTm).

1 7. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1
2 ~~one of the claims 1-6~~, characterised in that the facilities may
3 comprise one or more of the following features: generic extension
4 features, e.g. break-in feature, automatic ring back feature,
5 follow me feature, shuttle feature, call forwarding; digital
6 extension features, such as ISDN and data communication features;
7 cordless extension features; group features; manager/secretary
8 features; operator features; day and night service features; trunk
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9 features, e.g. generic trunk features, ISDN trunk features, and
10 routing features; paging features; telephony and maintenance
11 features; and any features upgradable and/or downloadable during
12 operation of the communication system (1).

1 8. (Amended) The communication system (1) according to claim 1
2 ~~one of the claims 1-7~~, characterised in that the processing device
3 (2) and/or the user terminal (T₁ ... T_n) concerned comprises a
4 voice signal transmitter and/or receiver, for example a DTMF
5 transmitter/receiver (4).

1 9. (Amended) Telephone system comprising a communication system
2 (1) according to claim 1 ~~one of the claims 1-8~~, the communication
3 system (1) having at least one user terminal (T₁ ... T_n), a
4 facility providing processing device (2) coupled thereto for
5 connecting the user terminals (T₁ ... T_n), and an intervening
6 network (3) for interconnection of the processing device (2) and a
7 remote user terminal (RT₁ ... RT_m), characterised in that the
8 intervening network (3) is arranged for conveying at least facility
9 related signals (S), and that the processing device (2) is equipped
10 for allowing its facilities to be used by the remote user terminal
11 (RT₁ ... RT_m).